

Application No. 10/086,792
Amendment "B" dated December 1, 2005
Reply to Notice of Allowance mailed November 22, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the listener component of the notification service receives the notification from a wireless device.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further ~~comprises~~comprising:
an act of delivering the notification to a mobile service provider.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the listener component of the notification service receives the notification from a mobile service provider.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further ~~comprises~~comprising:
an act of delivering the notification to a wireless device.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the router component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

determining that the notification is an instant message.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the router component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises the following:

an act of failing to detect any category associated with the notification; and

an act of determining that the notification is of a default category based on the failure to detect any category associated with the notification.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the router component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

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determining that the notification is a buddy list related notification.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the router component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

determining that the notification is a news related notification.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the router component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

determining that the notification is a mobile-originated notification.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining whether to check that the notification should be muted.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

accessing a user profile associated with a sender or receiver of the notification.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

authenticating the notification by verifying whether a user account is disabled or authorized.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

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inserting an advertisement into the notification.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

formatting the notification for the destination device.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining whether a user has exceeded a message limit.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining the transform operations to perform based on the category.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising an act of determining the order of operations to perform based on the category.

24-46. (Cancelled).

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47. (Added) In a network environment comprised of one or more computers or devices such as mobile devices that serve as notification sources, meaning that such computer or devices serve as sources where notifications are generated in response to an event, such notifications being generated in a network format comprised of an XML document included within an HTTP post request or included within a SOAP message that is included within an HTTP post request, and wherein the network is also comprised of one or more computers or devices that serve as notification sinks, meaning that such computer or devices serve as destinations on the network where the generated notifications are to be sent, a method for delivering such notifications from a notification service that scales the notifications to the number and variety of notification sources and notification sinks at the time such notifications are generated and delivered, the method comprising:

(a) receiving, at a listening component of the delivery service, a notification generated by a notification source in a network format comprised of an XML document included within an HTTP post request, notification content of the notification being structured within the XML document that identifies data including a category of notification and transform operations associated with the category that may be performed on notifications of the particular category;

(b) translating the notification into an internal processing format;

(c) forwarding the translated notification to a routing component of the notification service where categorizations of notifications that may be received are stored in an XML configuration document wherein each of the categories has associated transform operations that may be performed for that category;

(d) referencing the configuration XML document at the router component to determine a category associated with the notification, and performing at the router component one or more of the associated transform operations on the notification content of the XML document;

(e) forwarding the notification from the routing component to a delivery component of the notification service for delivery to the notification sinks of the network;

(f) changing the XML configuration document at the router by adding or deleting nodes of the XML document to add or delete different categories of notifications, and editing transform operations consistent with the added or deleted categories; and

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(g) repeating parts (a) through (e) for any subsequent notification corresponding to the changed categories of notifications.

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48. (Added) In a network environment comprised of one or more computer or devices such as mobile devices that serve as notification sources, meaning that such computer or devices serve as sources where notifications are generated in response to an event, such notifications being generated in a network format comprised of an XML document included within an HTTP post request or included within a SOAP message that is included within an HTTP post request, and wherein the network is also comprised of one or more computers or devices that serve as notification sinks, meaning that such computers or devices serve as destinations on the network where the generated notifications are to be sent, a computer program product for implementing a method for delivering such notifications from a notification service that scales the notifications to the number and variety of notification sources and notification sinks at the time such notifications are generated and delivered, the computer program product comprising a physical computer readable medium containing computer-executable instructions for the method, and wherein the method is comprised of:

(a) receiving at a listening component of the delivery service a notification generated by a notification source in a network format comprised of an XML document included within an HTTP post request, notification content of the notification being structured within the XML document that identifies data such as a category of notification and transform operations associated with the category that may be performed on notifications of the particular category;

(b) translating the notification into an internal processing format;

(c) forwarding the translated notification to a routing component of the notification service where categorizations of notifications that may be received are stored in an XML configuration document wherein each of the categories has associated transform operations that may be performed for that category;

(d) referencing the XML configuration document at the router component to determine a category associated with the notification, and performing at the router component one or more of the associated transform operations on the notification content of the XML document;

(e) forwarding the notification from the routing component to a delivery component of the notification service for delivery to the notification sinks of the network;

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(f) changing the configuration XML document at the router by adding or deleting nodes of the XML document to add or delete different categories of notifications, and editing transform operations consistent with the added or deleted categories; and

(g) repeating parts (a) through (e) for any subsequent notification corresponding to the changed categories of notifications.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, further comprising a step for scaling the notification service in order to take into account the changes in the number of notification sources or notification sinks on the network, the scaling being performed by,

providing the listener, routing and delivery components of the notification service with a plurality of identical modules for performing the functions of the listener, routing and delivery components;

providing each of the listener, routing and delivery components with a load balancing function that distributes a received notification to one of the modules of that component; and

changing the number of modules at one or more of the listener, routing and delivery components in order to take into account changes in the number of notifications sources or notification sinks on the network.

50. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the listener component of the notification service receives the notification from a wireless device.

51. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 50, further comprises comprising:

an act of delivering the notification to a mobile service provider.

52. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the listener component of the notification service receives the notification from a mobile service provider.

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53. (Currently Amended) The computer program product for implementing the method of claim 52, further ~~comprises~~comprising:
an act of delivering the notification to a wireless device.

54. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:
determining that the notification is an instant message.

55. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:
an act of failing to detect any category associated with the notification; and
an act of determining that the notification is of a default category based on the failure to detect any category associated with the notification.

56. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:
determining that the notification is a buddy list-related notification.

57. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:
determining that the notification is a news-related notification.

58. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:
determining that the notification is a mobile-originated notification.

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59. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining whether to check that the notification should be muted.

60. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

accessing a user profile associated with a sender or receiver of the notification.

61. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

authenticating the notification by verifying whether a user account is disabled or authorized.

62. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

inserting an advertisement into the notification.

63. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

formatting the notification for the notification sink.

64. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining whether a user has exceeded a message limit.

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65. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining the transform operations to perform based on the category.

66. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 65, further comprising an act of determining the order of operations to perform based on the category.

67. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 48, further comprising a step for scaling the notification service in order to take into account the changes in the number of notification sources or notification sinks on the network, the scaling being performed by:

providing the listener, routing, and delivery components of the notification service with a plurality of identical modules for performing the functions of the listener, routing, and delivery components;

providing each of the listener, routing, and delivery components with a load balancing function that distributes a received notification to one of the modules of that component; and

changing the number of modules at one or more of the listener, routing, and delivery components in order to take into account changes in the number of notification sources or notification sinks on the network.

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